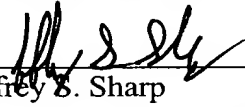




1651  
✓

Docket No.: 28053/38258  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	)	I hereby certify that this paper is being
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Serial No.: 09/889,085	)	Stop Amendment, Commissioner for
	)	Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria,
Filed: January 9, 2002	)	VA 22313-1450 on this date:
	)	
For: IMPROVED MICROBIAL	)	<b>February 22, 2005</b>
PREPARATIONS	)	
	)	
Group Art Unit: 1651	)	Jeffrey S. Sharp
	)	Registration No. 31,879
Examiner: Vera Afremova	)	Attorney for Applicants

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action of August 24, 2004 in which all pending claims (41 and 76-153) remained rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b), and 103(a), and under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting. Reconsideration of the rejection is solicited for the reasons set out below. This response is timely filed as a petition for a three-months extension of time to February 24, 2005 is submitted herewith.

**A copy of the pending Claims begins on page 2 of this paper.**

**Remarks/Arguments begin on page 12 of this paper.**